

supplying the text missing in line 16 thereof and in changing the dependency of claim 18 to depending on claim 17.

The Examiner then rejects claims 1 through 6, 8, 13 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by the PCT International Application Publication WO 92/22340. The applicants' attorney telephoned the Examiner on October 18, 1995 to inquire whether this could be overcome by a Rule 131 Affidavit, and was told that such an Affidavit would be effective for this purpose as would claiming priority. Thus, the applicants have amended the application to set forth the sequence of applications extending from the present application back to the application having Serial No. 07/712,508, filed on June 10, 1991 and incorporated in the present application, in claiming priority under 35 U.S.C. § 120. As a result, the applicants believe that this rejection is thereby overcome.

The applicants will not at this time rewrite objected to claims 7, 9, 11, 12, 14 and 15 to place them in independent form because of the belief on the part of the applicants that the above amendment will overcome the rejections to the claims so that they will now be allowable, but stand ready to rewrite these claims in independent form should that become appropriate.

In view of the foregoing, the applicant respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the claims rejected in view of the amendments, and further request that the Examiner now allow these claims as amended.

Any inquiries regarding this application should be directed to Theodore F. Neils at (612) 339-1863.

Respectfully submitted,  
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